

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

-- The disclosed embodiments relate to a technique for selecting one of several antennas or channels in a receiver based on the quality of the channel response at each of the antennas in a multicarrier system employing convolutional forward error-correction coding. Channel estimates are computed for each subcarrier and monotonic weights are assigned to each subcarrier based on the relative strength of the channel response for that subcarrier. The monotonic weights are mapped to each bit in a symbol for each subcarrier and bits are de-interleaved, if needed. A sliding window evaluation is performed to determine an overall channel quality metric for each channel. The antenna or channel having the highest overall CQM is selected to receive data.--